



AMERICAN NUMISMATIC ASSOCIATION

Chartered by Congress

MATT H. ROTHERT

President

P. O. Box 10

CAMDEN, ARKANSAS 11701

Sept. 21, 1965

Dear Eric :-

Dear Numismatist:

I am pleased to advise you of your appointment to the

B. O. N. I. Committee

The chairman of this committee is

John J. Pittman

If for any reason you cannot serve, please write him by return mail, with a copy to me. We will assume that you accept this appointment if we do not hear from you within ten days.

This is a very important committee and we appreciate your cooperation.

Sincerely,

Matt

Matt Rothert
President

RONNIE CARR



Post Office Box 1113
Tulare, California
Telephone 686-2924
Area Code 209

October 22, 1967

Mr. J. Edgar Hoover
Federal Bureau of Investigation
Washington, D. C.

Dear Sir:

Re: The letterhead memorandum dated October 18, 1967, from the San Francisco Office, captioned as above, and the letterhead memorandum dated October 18, 1967, from the San Francisco Office, captioned as above.

It is the policy of the Federal Bureau of Investigation to maintain a file on all persons who are known to be active in the field of espionage, sabotage, or subversion. This policy is based on the fact that such persons are a potential threat to the national security of the United States. The Bureau is currently conducting a review of the file on the above-named individual, and it is requested that you provide any information that you may have regarding this individual's activities in the field of espionage, sabotage, or subversion. This information should be provided in a letterhead memorandum to the Bureau, dated and captioned as above.

The Bureau is also interested in any information that you may have regarding the activities of the above-named individual in the field of espionage, sabotage, or subversion. This information should be provided in a letterhead memorandum to the Bureau, dated and captioned as above. The Bureau is currently conducting a review of the file on the above-named individual, and it is requested that you provide any information that you may have regarding this individual's activities in the field of espionage, sabotage, or subversion. This information should be provided in a letterhead memorandum to the Bureau, dated and captioned as above.

Very respectfully,
J. Edgar Hoover
Director

Enclosure

Very truly yours,

W. J. Rorick

Special Agent in Charge

The Midas Touch

November 1, 1965

Mr. Ronnie Carr
Post Office Box 1113
Tulare, California

Dear Ronnie:

I am complimented by your letter of October 27, 1965 and I realize your sincerity in trying to create an authenticity program.

As you might have read, I was named a member of the "Bureau of Numismatic Identification and Authentication", which is a fancy-named committee appointed by the President of A.N.A. with John Pittman as Chairman. I just learned who the other members of the committee were. I have not heard anything from the Chairman, as yet, as to what is expected of the bureau.

This Society has always been willing to include authenticities in its work and has specialized in American numismatics from the Colonial period through the Civil War. This work will continue along with other projects, regardless of politics, pressure, etc.

The use of this Society in cooperation with the A.N.A., or the government, is a possibility, but, as you indicate, involvement can be detrimental.

It is essential that X-ray metal analysis and defraction be available since without this authentication is too often inconclusive. We have no such facility available.

The most difficult problem is possible conflict of interest and opinion. We do not want to encourage arguments or have things bottled up awaiting general agreement.

-2-

Mr. Ronnie Carr

November 1, 1965

This field is a highly sensitive matter and, believe me, I know. People whose coins we have shown to be false have not spoken to me again. I have been threatened with litigation, etc; yet, I realize that without a strong authentication procedure rare coins in numismatics will become common by virtue of the new methods of reproduction.

As the matter now stands I want to see what the A.N.A. Committee wishes to do. I then must determine whether I am in a position to be of service or whether I should resign. I also would like to know what the P.N.G. thinks.

Let me hear from you as you and your contacts think this matter over further.

Sincerely yours,

ERIC P. NEWMAN NUMISMATIC
EDUCATION SOCIETY

E*
stb

Ind. State
Mr. Ronnie Carr

Dear Ronnie:

I am ^{complemented by} ~~the kindness of~~
I appreciate the confidence in me which your letter of
October 27, 1965 ^{realize} shows and I ~~know~~ ^{realize} of your sincerity in trying
to ~~clear up matters~~ ^{create an} relating to ~~authenticity~~ ^{program}.

As you might have read, I was named a member of the Bureau
of Numismatic Identification and Authentication which is a ^{fancy named}
committee appointed by the President of A.N.A. with John Pittman
as Chairman. I just learned who the other members of the committee
were. ^I ~~we~~ have not heard anything from the Chairman, as yet, ^{as to} with
~~respect to~~ ^{what} the committee is ^{is expected of the numismatic bureau} supposed to do.

This ^{Society} organization has always been willing to include authen-
ticities in its work and has specialized in American numismatics ^{from}
~~up~~ ^{the Colonial period} through the Civil War. Most work has been done in the American
Colonial field. This work will continue along with other projects,
^{regardless what committee of} ~~politics, pressure etc.~~

The use of this ^{society} organization in cooperation with the A.N. A.,
or the government, is a possibility, ^{but, as you indicate, involvement}
~~can be detrimental.~~

It is essential that X-ray ^{metal analysis} ~~analyses~~ and defractors ^{can} be avail-
able since without this ^{authentication is too} ~~the work is~~ often inconclusive. ^{We have no such}
^{facility available.}

The most difficult problem is ^{possible} the conflict of interest, ^{and opinion.} Differ
^{We do not want to encourage arguments and or have}
ent people might have different opinions. Some people might not
^{things bottled things up awaiting general agreement.}
wish to submit their items for comparative study.

As the matter now stands I want to see what the A.N.A. Committee wishes to do. I then must determine whether I am in a position to ^{be of service} ~~cooperate~~ or whether I should resign. I also would like to know ^{think although there are coins and never counterfeit} what the P.N.G. wishes to do. This field is a highly sensitive

matter and, believe me, I know. People whose coins ^{me} ~~it~~ have shown to be false have not spoken to me again. I have been threatened with litigation, ^{etc.} ~~and so forth~~; yet, I realize that without a strong authentication procedure rare coins in numismatics will become common by virtue of the new methods of reproduction.

^{and your contacts}
Let me hear from you as you think this matter over further.



AMERICAN NUMISMATIC ASSOCIATION

Chartered by Congress

JACK R. KOCH

Executive Director

P.O. Box 2366, COLORADO SPRINGS, COLORADO 80901


November 11, 1966

Mr. Eric P. Newman
P. O. Box 14020
St. Louis, Missouri 63178

Dear Mr. Newman:

President Rothert has instructed this office to notify
you of your appointment to the Bureau of Numismatic
Identification and Authentication Committee.
Complete instructions will be mailed to you from the
chairman of your committee in the near future.

Sincerely yours,


JACK R. KOCH
Executive Director

JRK:sf



AMERICAN NUMISMATIC ASSOCIATION

Chartered by Congress

JACK R. KOCH

Executive Director

P.O. Box 2366, COLORADO SPRINGS, COLORADO 80901

November 30, 1966

Mr. Eric Newman
P. O. Box 14020
St. Louis, Missouri 63178

Dear Eric:

It certainly was a pleasure visiting with you on the telephone last Friday.

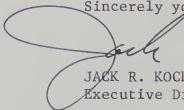
I have checked the records and find that the members of the B.O.N.I. Committee are:

Chairman: John J. Pittman, 4 Acton Street, Rochester, New York 14615
John J. Ford, Jr., 176 Hendrickson Ave., Rockville Centre,
L.I., New York
Eric P. Newman, P. O. Box 14020, St. Louis, Missouri 63178
Dr. V. Clain-Stefanelli, Smithsonian Institution, Washington,
D. C. 20560
Dr. James Sloss, 1425 Third Street, Beaver, Pennsylvania
Virgil Hancock, P. O. Box 936, Bellaire, Texas 77401

Enclosed is a letter to the Chairman of the Heath Literary Award, Lee Hewitt, with instructions regarding his committee men who have articles in the 1966 volume of The Numismatist.

Thank you for your continued interest in the promotion of the science of numismatics.

Sincerely yours,



JACK R. KOCH
Executive Director

Enc.
JRK:brg



AMERICAN NUMISMATIC ASSOCIATION

Chartered by Congress

November 30, 1966

Mr. Lee F. Hewitt
7320 Milwaukee Avenue
Chicago 48, Illinois

Dear Lee:

Eric Newman has called my attention to the fact that he has an article in Volume 79 (1966), The Numismatist, which will be eligible for a Heath Literary Award and has, therefore, asked to resign from this committee this year.

The thought occurs to me that there may be others who have articles eligible for awards and these members should not serve as a selection committee for the Heath Literary Awards this year. After you have received your December issue, I would appreciate your checking to determine if there are other committee members besides Mr. Newman who have articles appearing in the 1966 volume of The Numismatist.

Sincerely yours,

JACK R. KOCH
Executive Director

1 - Eric Newman

JRK:brg

December 2, 1966

Mr. Jack R. Koch, Executive Director
American Numismatic Association
P.O.Box 2366
Colorado Springs, Colorado 80901

Dear Jack:

I appreciate my reappointment to the Numismatic Investigation and Authentication Committee (B.O.N.I.) of the American Numismatic Association, but feel it would be inadvisable to serve. So far as I know, the committee was completely nonfunctional during the past year, possibly because of its membership.

There is a pending hearing relating to authentication before an Arbitration Panel of the Professional Numismatists Guild in which I and other members of the B.O.N.I. committee have been called upon to give testimony as witnesses. There has been and no doubt will continue to be serious conflict in that testimony. Under these circumstances I feel that my membership on the committee might affect its harmony and I therefore do not wish to serve under such circumstances.

Very truly yours,



ERIC P. NEWMAN

Also, noone knows how many of the major mint errors were released. We could therefore get an idea of the relative rarity of many of these coins.

After the list has been drawn up it could be enclosed with the ballot we receive, or it could be a special tearout section of the NUMISMATIST. People would be asked to fill out the list, and return to the A.N.A. unsigned with no return address on the envelope. This to ensure that noone need fear that they would expose themselves to robbery, if their letter got lost.

I knew that many people will not reply to such a request, and that many coins are owned by people who are not members of the A.N.A. However I believe that if a start is made, that eventually most of the holders will come around, and future reports will be more accurate.

Please do not discard this idea without giving it some thought. Part of the A.N.A. creed is to gain knowledge in all matters numismatic.

This could go down in our club history as a contribution of your administration.

Cordially,

Charles Bona

A.N.A. 19532
ACCC 300
PMCM 561



AMERICAN NUMISMATIC ASSOCIATION

Chartered by Congress

ARTHUR SIPE

President

4021 Bonsall Ave., DREXEL HILL, PA. 19026

October 1, 1967

Dear Eric:

Dear Numismatist:

I am pleased to advise you of your appointment to the

*Numismatic Terms Standardization
Committee of the A.N.A.*

The chairman of this committee is

Virginia Culver

If for any reason you cannot serve, please write to ^{her} ~~him~~ by return mail, with a copy to me. We will assume that you accept this appointment if we do not hear from you within ten days.

This is a very important committee and we appreciate your cooperation.

Sincerely,

Art
Arthur Sipe
President



AMERICAN NUMISMATIC ASSOCIATION

Chartered by Congress

ARTHUR SIPE

President

4021 Bonsall Ave., DREXEL HILL, PA. 19026

November 29, 1967

Mr. Eric F. Newman
P.O. Box 14020
St. Louis, Missouri 63178

Dear Eric:

Dear Numismatist:

I am pleased to advise you of your appointment to the
B.O.N.I. Committee of the A.N.A.

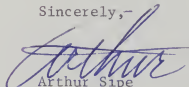
The chairman of this committee is

John J. Fittman

If for any reason you cannot serve, please write to him by
return mail, with a copy to me. We will assume that you
accept this appointment if we do not hear from you within
ten days.

This is a very important committee and we appreciate your
cooperation.

Sincerely,-


Arthur Sipe
President

ERIC P. NEWMAN NUMISMATIC EDUCATION SOCIETY

6450 Cecil Avenue, St. Louis 5, Missouri

December 5, 1967

Mr. John J. Pittman
4 Adon Street
Rochester, New York

Dear John:

Arthur has asked me to serve on the E.O.N.I.
Committee of the A.N.A.

I will appreciate it if you will advise me
by return mail who the other members of this
committee are so that I can respond.

Kindest regards.

Sincerely,

ERIC P. NEWMAN

EPN/atb

1605 Melville Avenue
Fairfield, Conn. 06430
October 22, 1967.

Arthur Sipe
4021 Bensall Ave.
Drexel Hill Penn. 19026

Dear President Sipe,

The thought has come to me that the A.N.A. has overlooked an important feature in the field of numismatics.

I am sure that most collectors, and surely all of the serious ones, knew in general which coins have had low mintage.

Such coins as the 1955 double strike, of which no mintage report is known, have had estimates made as to the number struck.

However, no one knows how many of any of these low mintage coins are still available.

I believe the A.N.A. would do a service to numismatics if it would undertake a census of these scarce but collectable coins. We could eliminate such items as the 1804 silver dollar, the 1913 Liberty nickel, the 1894 S dime, and other coins of this kind as well as the extremely rare varieties of some of the early coins.

My idea is to have the Board of Governors set up a committee of experts, who would compile a list of coins of low mintage. I would suggest as a criteria mintage from 5000 to 100,000 as a basis. This base could be altered in either direction. There would be about 100 coins in all listed. A series of boxes alongside each coin would have different grades listed from poor to proof. Everyone would be asked to mark in the appropriate square the number of coins they have in each category. Every year a different group of coins would be listed until all of the scarce but collectable coins are covered. Then the procedure can be repeated and that way a continuous census of all these coins will be had.

There is more than might meet the eye to this. Suppose for example, the survey shows that there are 50,000 specimens of the 1916 STANDING LIBERTY QUARTER on hand. Obviously something would be wrong as that would indicate that only 2,000 died the normal death. Yet we all knew that that coin did not wear well. The obvious conclusion would be that there are fakes around.



AMERICAN NUMISMATIC ASSOCIATION

Chartered by Congress

JOHN JAY PITTMAN

Board of Governors

4 Acton Street

ROCHESTER, NEW YORK 14615

February 13, 1968

Mr. Eric Newman
P.O. Box 14020
St. Louis, Mo. 63178

Dear Eric:

Some time ago I recommended to ANA President Sipe that you be asked to serve on the 1968 Bureau of Numismatic Identification and Authentication Committee. I appreciate very much your willingness to do this. The ANA feels that there is a lot of good work that this committee can accomplish. I would appreciate hearing your recommendations of what action the committee should start in 1968.

I am enclosing in this letter a copy of a letter received by President Sipe from ANA member Charles Bone, #19532. After you have read it, I would like to hear what you think we should do regarding Mr. Bone's suggestion.

With best regards,
Sincerely,

John J. Pittman
John J. Pittman, Chairman
ANA BONI Committee

JJ/gc
enc.

ERIC P. NEWMAN NUMISMATIC EDUCATION SOCIETY

6450 Cecil Avenue, St. Louis 5, Missouri

February 27, 1968

Mr. John J. Pittman
4 Acton Street
Rochester, New York 14615

Dear John:

Your letter of February 13, 1968 with respect to BONI matters is at hand.

It would be helpful to me if you would outline what the committee did in previous years and what other matters it considered. I also would like to know who is on the committee this year.

As Chairman of the committee, could you list projects which you or other members of the committee feel are deserving of consideration? Do officers and directors of the ANA want any particular project developed?

As to the letter of Charles Bona, I believe that a census operation does not fall into the category of work which the BONI committee is set up for. It is our experience that many people do not answer such requests and that others will answer them fictitiously. In addition, the ANA only has approximately 25,000 members and quantities of scarce coins are held by people who are not members. The work therefore may not produce valid data.

I hope I have been helpful.

Sincerely yours,

ERIC P. NEWMAN NUMISMATIC
EDUCATION SOCIETY

EPN
atb



AMERICAN NUMISMATIC ASSOCIATION

Chartered by Congress

ARTHUR SIPE

President

4021 Bonsall Ave., DREXEL HILL, PA. 19026

October 9, 1968

Mr. Eric P. Newman
P.O. Box 14020
St. Louis, Mo. 63178

Dear Eric:

I am pleased to advise you of your appointment to the

Numismatic Terms Standardization Committee

The chairman of this committee is Mrs. Virginia Culver, P.O. Box 96, Thiensville, Wisconsin 53092.

If for any reason you cannot continue to serve on this committee, please write to her by return mail, with a copy to me. We will assume that you accept this appointment if we do not hear from you within ten days.

This is a very important committee and we appreciate your cooperation.

Sincerely,

Arthur Sipe
President



AMERICAN NUMISMATIC ASSOCIATION

Chartered by Congress

ARTHUR SIPE

President

4021 Bonsall Ave., DREXEL HILL, PA. 19026

November 14, 1968

Mr. Eric Newman
P.O. Box 14020
St. Louis, Mo. 63178

Dear Eric:

Dear Numismatist:

I am pleased to advise you of your appointment to the

BONI (Bureau of Numismatic Identification & Authentication)
Committee
The chairman of this committee is

John Jay Pittman, 4 Acton St., Rochester, N.Y. 14615

If for any reason you cannot serve, please write to him by return mail, with a copy to me. We will assume that you accept this appointment if we do not hear from you within ten days.

This is a very important committee and we appreciate your cooperation.

Sincerely,

ARTHUR SIPE
President

AMERICAN NUMISMATIC ASSOCIATION

A Non Profit Educational Association



Chartered by Congress

MEMBERSHIP INFORMATION

The American Numismatic Association is the largest and most active numismatic body in the world. It invites, and will welcome to membership, all worthy persons 11 years of age or over, who have a sincere interest in the subject of numismatics.



The Association was founded in 1891, and has over 25,000 members. Its members come from every State in the Union, and from many foreign countries. It is an incorporated body, having been granted a Federal Charter by an Act of Congress in 1912. This charter was renewed in perpetuity by Congress in 1962. It is a non-profit, educational organization.

DETACH AND RETAIN

OBJECTS—Its objects are to encourage and promote the science of numismatics by the acquirement and study of coins, paper money, tokens, and medals; to cultivate fraternal relations among collectors and students; to encourage and assist new collectors and to foster the interest of youth in the subject; to stimulate and advance affiliations between collectors and kindred organizations in the United States and foreign countries; to acquire and disperse numismatic knowledge; to form and maintain a cabinet of numismatic specimens and a library of numismatic literature for the use and benefit of its members, and to demonstrate the fact that numismatics is an educational, serious and entertaining pursuit; and generally to represent coin collecting interests as a national organization.

ADVANTAGES—To be a member is to have fraternal affiliation with numismatic students and collectors of the world, to have the honor of serving strangers with references, as an entree with dealers and collectors. *The Numismatist* is sent **FREE OF CHARGE** to all members except Associate members.

OFFICIAL MAGAZINE—The Association owns and publishes *The Numismatist*, a monthly magazine, carefully edited and illustrated and considered an outstanding publication exclusively devoted to numismatics. Monthly issues, at present, have 144 pages.

Non-members may subscribe to *The Numismatist* on a yearly basis, for the subscription rate of \$7.50 per year. A sample copy will be mailed upon receipt of 75c.

CONVENTIONS—Each year the A.N.A. holds a convention in one of the larger cities in the United States. The varied activities incorporated in the convention are sources of intellectual stimulation, fraternal pleasure and entertainment to all who attend. The business sessions are devoted to the serious side of numismatics, while the recesses afford opportunities for banquets, excursions, and other forms of entertainment, and for personal acquaintance with coin collectors from all parts of the U.S. and from other countries. The splendid exhibits of numismatic specimens at these conventions have become notable features of these gatherings. These exhibits are open to the public. Members attending these conventions look forward with interest to hearing the outstanding speakers at the educational forum.

Address inquiries for specific information to:

AMERICAN NUMISMATIC ASSOCIATION
P. O. Box 2366
Colorado Springs, Colo. 80901

AMERICAN NUMISMATIC ASSOCIATION

P. O. Box 2366
Colorado Springs, Colo. 80901

CODE OF ETHICS
of
THE AMERICAN NUMISMATIC ASSOCIATION

Membership in the American Numismatic Association is a privilege extended to those persons and organizations deemed worthy thereof and is not a matter of right. Such membership can be maintained only until the Board of Governors determines that the conduct of a member has been such that, in the best interest of the Association, his membership should be terminated.

For the guidance of its members, this Code of Ethics has been duly adopted by the Board of Governors under the authority vested in it by the Federal Charter and the by-laws of the Association. A breach thereof by any member reflects, directly or indirectly, upon all other members. Such a breach shall be considered conduct prejudicial to the welfare of the Association and cause for action by the Board of Governors.

As a member of the American Numismatic Association:

I agree to support and be governed by the Federal Charter and the by-laws of the Association, and such rules, policies and regulations as may be in force from time to time;

I agree to conduct myself so as to bring no reproach or discredit to the Association, or impair the prestige of membership therein;

I agree to base all of my dealings on the highest plane of justice, fairness and morality;

I agree to neither buy nor sell numismatic items of which the ownership is questionable;

I agree to conform to the accepted standards of dignified advertising;

I agree to take immediate steps to correct any error I may make in any transaction;

I agree not to sell, exhibit, produce, nor advertise counterfeits, copies, restrikes and reproductions of any numismatic items if their nature is not clearly indicated by the word "counterfeit", "copy", "restrike", or "reproduction" incused in the metal or printed on the paper thereof, with the exception of items produced prior to 1933 and generally accepted by numismatists and not in any way misrepresented as genuine;

I agree to represent a numismatic item to be genuine only when, to the best of my knowledge and belief, it is authentic;

I agree to fulfill all contracts made by me, either orally or written, to make prompt payments upon delivery, and to return immediately any item that is not satisfactory;

I agree to give aid to members in their quest for numismatic knowledge.



AMERICAN NUMISMATIC ASSOCIATION

Chartered by Congress

HERBERT M. BERGEN

President

604 No. Harbor Blvd., FULLERTON, CALIF. 92632

August 26, 1969

Mr. Eric P. Newman
POB 14020
St. Louis, Mo.

Dear Numismatist:

I am pleased to advise you of your appointment to the
Authentication Committee

The chairman of this committee is

John Jay Pittman, 4 Acton St., Rochester, N.Y. 14615

If for any reason you cannot serve, please write to him by return mail, with a copy to me. We will assume that you accept this appointment if we do not hear from you within ten days.

This is a very important committee and we appreciate your cooperation.

Sincerely,

Herbert M. Bergen
President

s

ERIC P. NEWMAN NUMISMATIC EDUCATION SOCIETY

6450 Cecil Avenue, St. Louis 5, Missouri

September 5, 1969

Mr. Herbert A. Silberman
Associate Designers Incorporated
174 Maplewood Avenue
Maplewood, New Jersey 07040

Dear Mr. Silberman:

Thank you for your letter of September 2, 1969 with respect to the note which you wish to send to a number of numismatic publications.

As to stimulating the creation of a recognized authenticating bureau, you are familiar with the program for the ANAT which has been promoted by the ANA and the PNG. We have opposed that program because we felt that the ANA, alone, requires its disciplinary power and its investigative power in order to carry out authentication activities. The failure of the ANAT to raise the amount of money required for its launching indicates a lack of support by many for various reasons. I previously indicated to the ANA that it was not sound for them to delegate an authentication function to another organization of which they have no control. I believe a number of members of the ANA now agree with that position.

The new President of the ANA, Herbert M. Bergen, has set up an "Authentication Committee", the Chairman of which is John Jay Pittman, 4 Acton St., Rochester, New York 14615. I am on the committee. A similar type of committee has been in existence, with John Jay Pittman as Chairman, for several years, but has never been activated.

I am giving you all this background so that you can determine, for yourself, whether you want to submit your thoughts to the ANA Authentication Committee, whether you wish that to be an open letter which can be published in other numismatic publications, or whether there is some alternative way of handling your idea.

ERIC P. NEWMAN NUMISMATIC EDUCATION SOCIETY

6450 Cecil Avenue, St. Louis 5, Missouri

-2-

September 5, 1969

Mr. Herbert A. Silberman

In order to avoid any conflict of interest, we would like to avoid giving permission or not giving permission as you requested.

We would be pleased to be kept advised as to your action.

Sincerely yours,

ERIC P. NEWMAN NUMISMATIC
EDUCATION SOCIETY

EPN/atb

ERIC P. NEWMAN NUMISMATIC EDUCATION SOCIETY

6450 Cecil Avenue, St. Louis 5, Missouri

September 9, 1969

Mr. John Pittman
4 Acton Street
Rochester, New York

Dear John:

You will recall that you have some pictures of Mexican gold bars. We would very much like to obtain copies of those pictures and wonder if you would be nice enough to accomplish this in some manner.

No doubt the Authentication Committee will be activated during the coming year and this is one of the subjects which was mentioned to me as being one of the items which might be gone in to.

May we have your cooperation.

Cordially,

ERIC P. NEWMAN NUMISMATIC
EDUCATION SOCIETY

EPN/etb

ERIC P. NEWMAN NUMISMATIC EDUCATION SOCIETY

6450 Cecil Avenue, St. Louis 5, Missouri

February 5, 1970

Mr. Herbert W. Hergen, President
American Numismatic Association
604 No. Harbor Blvd.
Fullerton, Calif. 92632

Dear Herb:

An additional point on ANAT omitted from my last letter is as follows:

The only way to stop the sale of a forgery or alteration, after it has been designated as such by an authenticating service, is to require the seller to disclose the opinion rendered by the authenticating service. The seller does not have to agree with the opinion but otherwise the same phonies will go round and round.

The foregoing is another reason why ANA must control the authenticating service so that it can require its members, when they attempt to sell a piece, to furnish the buyer with an adverse opinion of the authenticating service if one has been issued. If ANAT was a separate organization, this control could not be exercised.

Sincerely yours,

ERIC P. NEWMAN NUMISMATIC
EDUCATION SOCIETY

EPN/atb

ERIC P. NEWMAN NUMISMATIC EDUCATION SOCIETY

6450 Cecil Avenue, St. Louis 5, Missouri

March 4, 1970

Mr. Herbert W. Bergen, President
American Numismatic Association
604 No. Harbor Blvd.,
Fullerton, Calif. 92632

Dear Herb:

I was delighted with your letter of February 26, 1970 and I am satisfied that there will be enthusiasm if the ANA formally takes over the ANAT program. You certainly did a most generous thing by underwriting the balance of the fund to such a large extent.

A great deal of further thought must be given to the matter and I will be doing that. I will want to talk to you further about the situation and will call you after I have reached some more definite conclusions.

Sincerely yours,

ERIC P. NEWMAN NUMISMATIC
EDUCATION SOCIETY

EPN/atb

ERIC P. NEWMAN NUMISMATIC EDUCATION SOCIETY

6450 Cecil Avenue, St. Louis 5, Missouri

June 17, 1970

Mr. Herbert M. Bergen, President
American Numismatic Association
604 So. Harbor Blvd.,
Fullerton, Calif. 92632

Dear Herb:

Your inquiry of June 10, 1970 as to the liability of the ANA for authentication opinions, and the enclosure of a copy of Lon Werner's June 5, 1970 letter did more for the cause than you may know.

Werner's letter seems to refer to the opinion of metallurgists he received to the effect that the Serbe 1804 and 1805 Dollars which Werner sold to Osheser were not altered dates. At the ANA Convention in Atlanta in 1961 I spoke at the Educational Forum on behalf of this organization and pointed out specific evidence that they were alterations. This caused a modification of the sale arrangement between Werner and Osheser. Werner threatened to sue me. The matter is mentioned in The Fantastic 1804 Dollar. Apparently, virtually everyone accepted our opinion and Werner was disappointed. For him to use this incident to oppose an authentication service by the ANA is not very valid. He had and might still have a conflict of interest in citing this example, possibly causing his opinion to be biased. It is still an emotional matter with him as there seems to be no point in his writing you that the coins were not first examined prior to the alteration opinion (an assertion which is not accurate).

Authentication is an opinion. It is an opinion voluntarily sought. It is rendered for the expense of the service, not for a profit. There will be many cases where no decision will be reached. Opinions must have facts to support them and even then can be accepted or rejected by buyers, sellers, dealers, courts, etc. The squabbles between buyers and sellers are not going to be solved in some cases but at least the authentication service has been available. Stamp experts give opinions fearlessly. When was there ever a coin libel suit? There is fine

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June 17, 1970

Mr. Herbert R. Bergen, President
American Numismatic Association

arts insurance which some art museum directors carry but when have they been sued. The ANA has had a non-operating BONI committee already. It must stand for something and if it can't furnish a desperately needed service then it should not have supported ANAT in the first place. It isn't the type of organization which should pass the buck. Let's make the ANA stronger and more respected by getting the ANAT under its wing.

Your June message in The Numismatist was carefully noted by us. Long ago we wrote Hancock asking what his position was on the ANA takeover. His reply was received. Pittman must have voted for the ANA takeover since the decision of the ANA Board was unanimous; so why hasn't he, as an ANAT Trustee, reaffirmed what he voted for. He still has enough problems now but if he thinks he is without a serious conflict of interest in authentication he should ask you.

We will give our views to the Board of Governors at the convention, if you desire them.

We hope we have been helpful.

Sincerely,

ERIC P. NEWMAN NUMISMATIC
EDUCATION SOCIETY

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